

ABSTRACT

For designing a more compact image reading device and printer requiring for separating a paper sheet and feeding the separated sheet, a limited space above a sheet cassette is effectively used for accommodating a larger number of paper sheets. A sensor lever is supported at its sensor lever axis fitted in an elliptic hole made in a supporting member of the sensor lever. The axis can swing and slide in the elliptic hole. With a large number of sheets piled in the cassette, the sensor lever swings to about horizontal position and the axis retracts up in the elliptic hole. With a small number of sheets, the sensor lever abuts at its abutting member against a receiving portion of the supporting member to prevent the sensor lever axis from moving upward in the elliptic hole, thereby the sensor lever can reliably detect the state of no paper remaining thereon.